

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/647,599	TOMINAGA ET AL.
	Examiner Michael A Marcheschi	Art Unit 1755

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed 1/6/05.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9, 11-18.
3. The drawings filed on 25 August 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

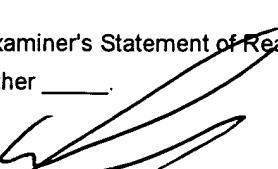
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
 8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
 9. Other _____.
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Art Unit: 1755

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Mortimer on 3/11/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 2, cancel "at least one of".

Claim 1, line 2, cancel "and" and insert --or--.

Claim 9, line 2, cancel "at least one of".

Claim 9, line 2, cancel "and" and insert --or--.

Claim 9, lines 5-8, cancel "in such a manner that...independently of the other of the first and second sections" and insert in its place --wherein at least one of the sections of said abrasive solid has a cutting resistance of 19.6-147 N (2-15 kgf), and said cutting resistance is determined by measuring a maximum load applied to a cutter blade having a blade length of 22 mm or more and being pressed down vertically to a specimen of each section 20 mm wide at a speed of 7 mm/min so as to sever it into two--.

Cancel Claim 10

Claim 16, line 2, cancel "at least one of".

Claim 16, line 2, cancel "and" and insert --or--.

Claim 18, line 2, cancel "at least one of".

Claim 18, line 2, cancel "and" and insert --or--.

Art Unit: 1755

Claim 18, lines 12-15 cancel “in such a manner that...independently of the other of the first and second sections”.

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

In view of applicants amendments, remarks and the examiners amendment, the examiner now find the claimed invention to be novel over the prior art of record because said art fails to teach or suggest an abrasive solid comprising the claimed components, wherein the solid has the claimed tensile strength, tear strength and/or cutting resistance. The prior art of record fails to appreciate the criticality of the characteristics defined above. The instant specification clearly shows criticality for the aforementioned characteristics, see specifically page 8, lines 6-16.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael A Marcheschi whose telephone number is (571) 272-1374. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Application/Control Number: 10/647,599
Art Unit: 1755

Page 4



Michael A Marcheschi
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1755

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3/15/05